FINAL REPORT: CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF APPROXIMATELY 54 ACRES FOR THE SAN DIEGO SECTOR BORDER WALL PROTOTYPE, U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, SAN DIEGO SECTOR, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Contract No: GS10F0058K
Task Order: HSBP1017F00134
Work Order: 01

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October 2017

ABSTRACT

SPONSOR: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

PROJECT NAME/NUMBER: San Diego Sector (SDC) Border Wall Prototype Cultural Resources Survey, Gulf South Research Corporation (GSRC) Project No. 80335101g

LAND STATUS: CBP; General Services Administration (GSA)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: On August 23, 2017, GSRC conducted a cultural resources inventory of an approximately 54-acre project area. The project area consists of a proposed entry and potential staging area (if needed), access and egress roads, the area between the primary and secondary fences, the border wall prototype construction area, and a potential staging area at the eastern end of the project area. A GSRC archaeologist walked transects across the 54-acre project area using parallel transects spaced 20 meters apart or perpendicular to the existing all-weather border road. The purpose of this investigation was to locate, evaluate, and record all cultural resources (prehistoric archaeological sites and historic properties/structures) within the project area, and to make recommendations of eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for any identified resources.

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project area is located west of the Otay Mesa Land Port-of-Entry (LPOE). The proposed project area is located within Section 36 of Township 18 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 31 and 32, Township 18 South, Range 1 East (map reference: Otay Mesa, California, U.S. Geological Survey [USGS] 7.5' topographic quadrangles).

TOTAL AREA SURVEYED: 54 acres

COMMENTS: GSRC conducted a cultural resources investigation of the approximately 54-acre study area. A records search, which includes a 0.5-mile buffer around the project area, resulted in the identification of 61 previous investigations, which resulted in the identification of 44 archaeological sites. Six of the previously recorded sites intersect the current project area, but each of the sites were either completely collected or had their research potential exhausted through archaeological testing. No evidence of the previously recorded sites was identified during the pedestrian archaeological survey. The pedestrian survey observed several drainage features that were determined to be modern. Also noted was ceramic tile of unknown age and two possible flakes. The flakes were determined not to be prehistoric in nature, but rather created by the pressure from vehicular or heavy equipment traffic.

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INTRODUCTION

Project Background

CBP intends to construct a border wall prototype, along with associated staging areas, access, and egress in an approximately 120- by 1,000-foot corridor on the U.S./Mexico border in the alignment of the secondary border fence between the Otay Mesa Land Port of Entry (LPOE) and Tin Can Hill in San Diego County, California (Figure 1). The corridor currently serves as a border enforcement zone with primary and secondary border fences, border roads, and border lighting and surveillance technology. Access to the border wall prototype construction area will be along the border road from the west and via two north-south roads near the LPOE; these access roads will be repaired or improved to support the transport of heavy trucks and equipment to the border wall prototype construction area (Figure 2). Construction staging will be done within the border wall prototype construction area. A concrete washout location will be located near the border wall prototype construction area at a location to be determined by CBP prior to project commencement. The project area includes the border wall prototype construction area, the access roads, the potential 10-acre staging area, if needed, and the concrete washout area.

The need for this investigation includes the evaluation, consultation, and planning to allow CBP to fulfill its environmental stewardship obligations. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the proposed undertaking will take into account the nature of the undertaking and both the belowground and aboveground potential for the undertaking to affect historic properties, if any are present. The APE will include the entire project area, plus a viewshed that encompasses areas that can be viewed from the boundaries of the undertaking from ground level.

The purpose of the cultural resources investigation was to identify previously recorded archaeological sites, to locate, evaluate, and record previous or newly identified cultural resources in proximity to the proposed project area and to make recommendations of eligibility to the NRHP for any identified resources.

Reporting Conventions

Cultural resources specialists typically express measurements using the metric system when reporting on indigenous archaeological sites and English measurements when discussing non-indigenous properties. In this report, measurements derived from USGS maps, or other sources in which English measurements are used, are given only in Standard American English (SAE) dimensions. Thus, long distances are given in miles, elevations in feet, and survey area in acres. SAE measurements are also used for historic sites, features, and artifacts. Scientific measurements of survey coverage (e.g., transect spacing), site dimensions, and indigenous resources will be expressed in metric units. Metric-English conversions are provided for clarity, where appropriate.

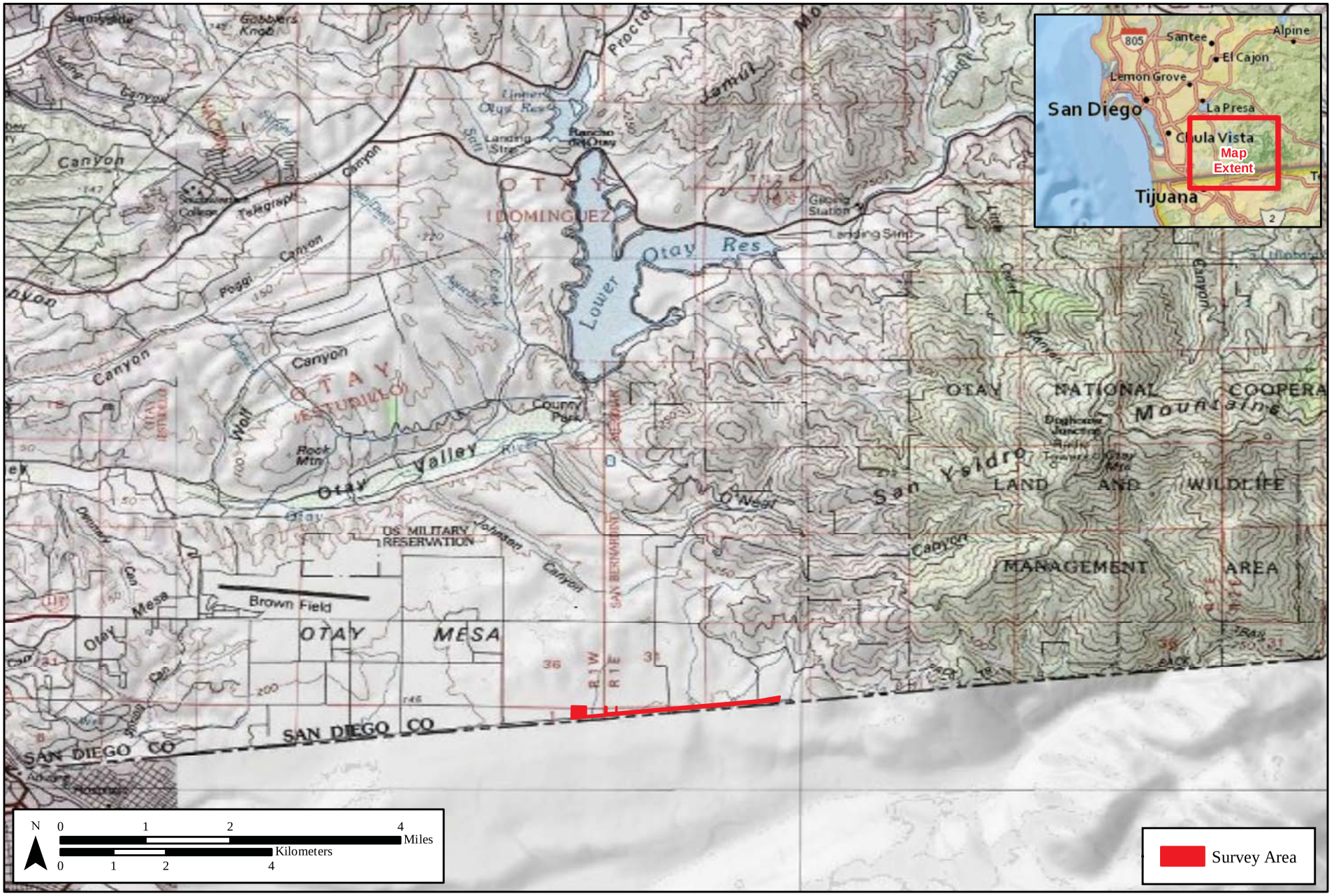

Figure 1. Project vicinity map.

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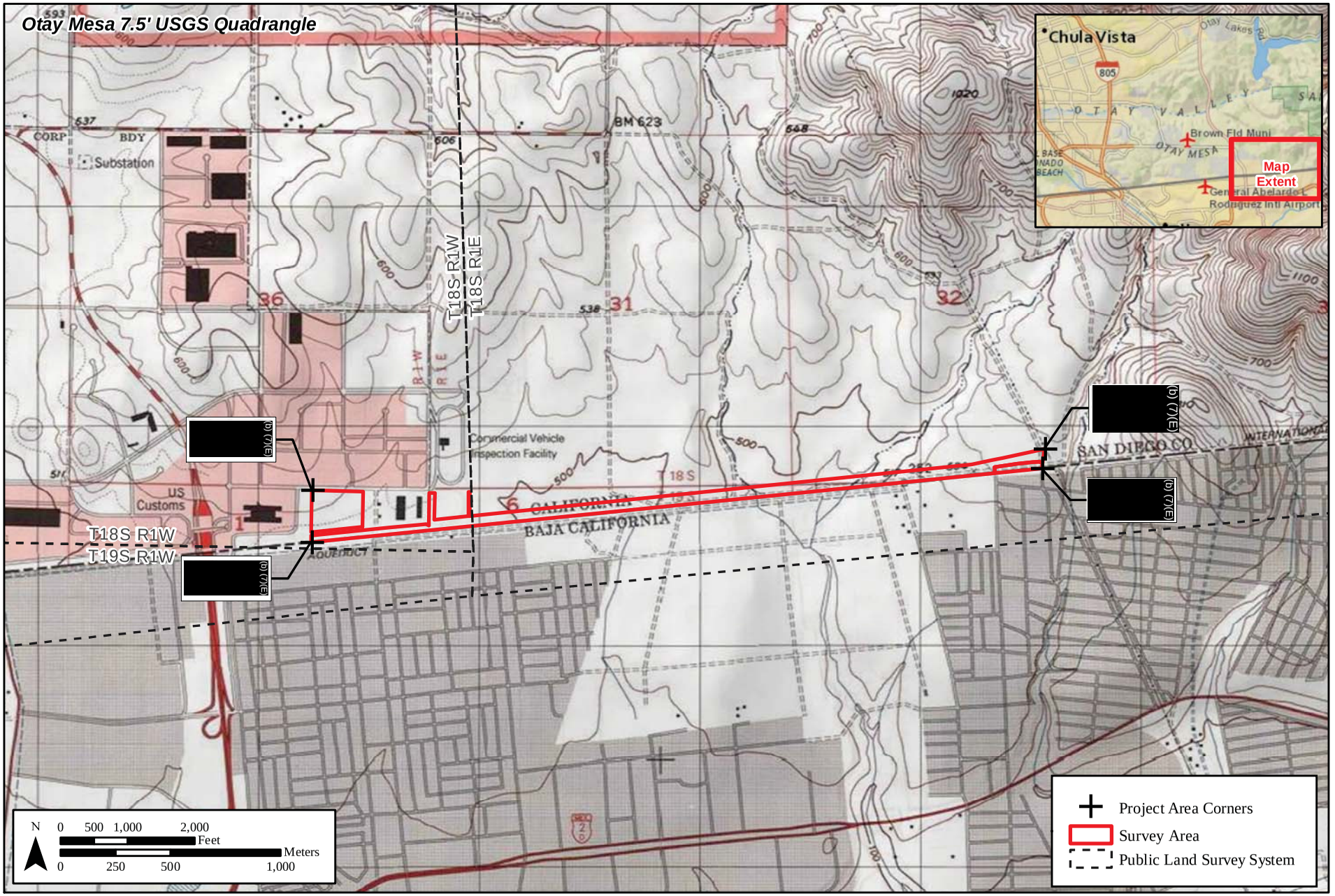

Figure 2. Project location map.

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Environmental Setting

The proposed SDC Border Wall Prototype construction road, staging areas, and access roads are located within Section 36 of Township 18 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 31 and 32, Township 18 South, Range 1 East (map reference: Otay Mesa, California, USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle). The project area is located east of the Otay Mesa LPOE with elevation ranging from 476 to 558 feet above mean sea level (amsl).

Geology and Soils

The underlying geology of the project area consists of Sandstone (Mc), with Alluvium (Q) to the west of the project area and Felsic Volcanic Rock (Mzv) to the east (Figure 3). The Sandstone (Mc) consists of a medium-grained clastic sedimentary rock composed of abundant sand-sized fragments, which may have a finer-grained matrix (silt or clay), and which is more or less indurated by a cementing material (Jennings et al. 1977). The Alluvium (Q) is composed of clay, silt, sand, gravel, or similar unconsolidated detrital material, deposited during comparatively recent geologic time by a stream or other body of running water, as a sorted or semi-sorted sediment, whereas the Felsic volcanic rock (Mzv) consists of a light-colored, fine-grained or aphanitic extrusive or hypabyssal rock, with or without phenocrysts and composed chiefly of quartz and feldspar (Jennings et al. 1977).

Soils within the project area are dominated by Salinas clay (ScA) in the western half of the project area, with a small section of Stockpen gravelly clay loam (SuA) in the extreme western portion of the project area (Figure 4). The eastern half of the project area is dominated by Huerhuero loams (HrC, HrC2, and HrD2), with the primary difference being the percent slope. Detailed descriptions of soil types and characteristics can be found on the Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) Database (SSURGO 2017).

Flora

The project area is located within the California Coastalscrub biotic community (Pase and Brown 1994: 86-94). The project area has been heavily modified through past development and is dominated by non-native species including but not limited to Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), crown daisy (*Glebionis coronaria*), prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), compact brome (*B. madritensis*), Italian rye grass (*Festuca perennis*), Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), crimson fountaingrass (*Pennisetum setaceum*), knotgrass (*Paspalum distichum*), tamarisk (*Tamarisk* sp.), and Australian saltbush (*Atriplex semibaccata*).

Fauna

Animal species observed included American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugea*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), Say's phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beecheyi*), and Audubon's cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*).

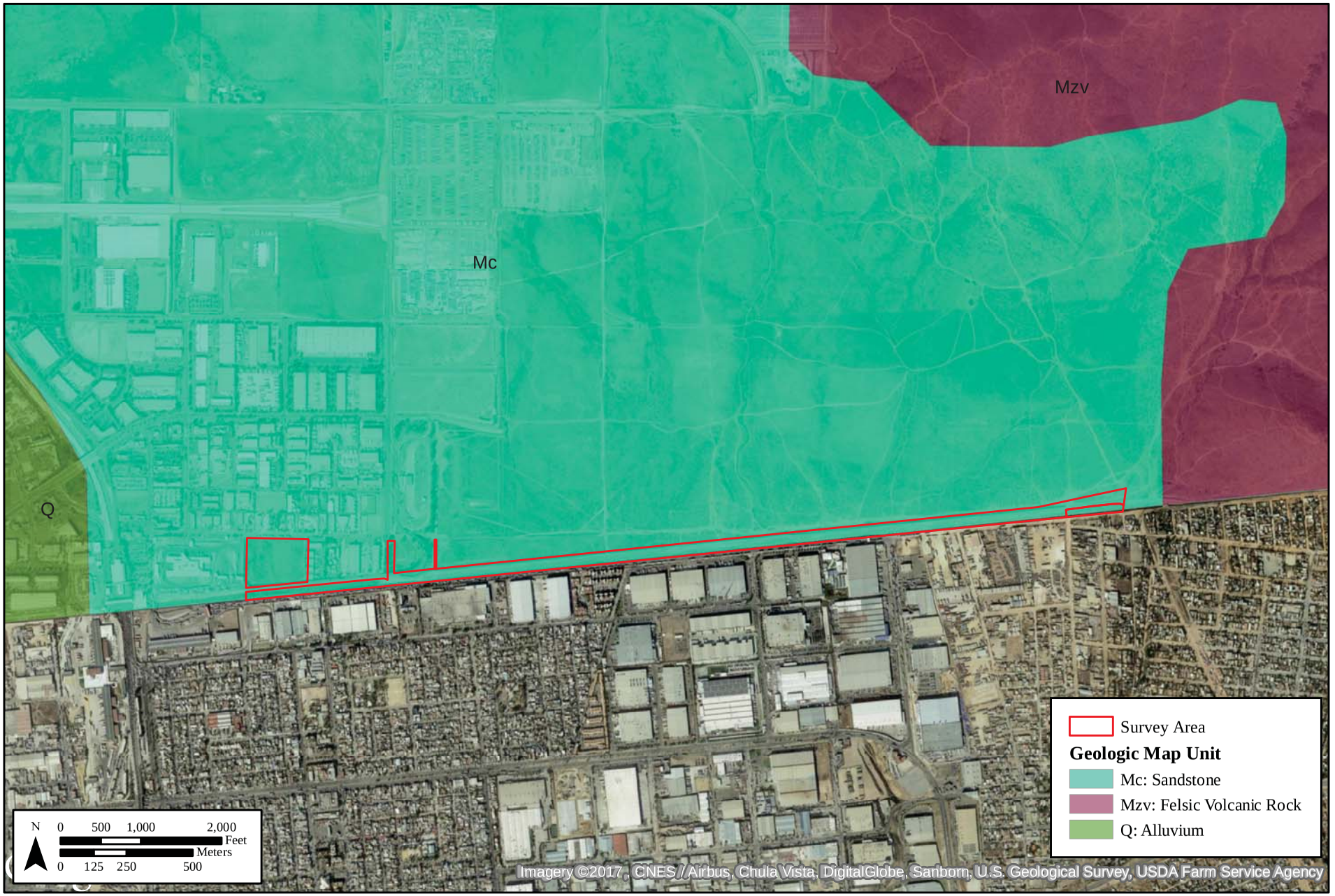

Figure 3. Geology of project area.

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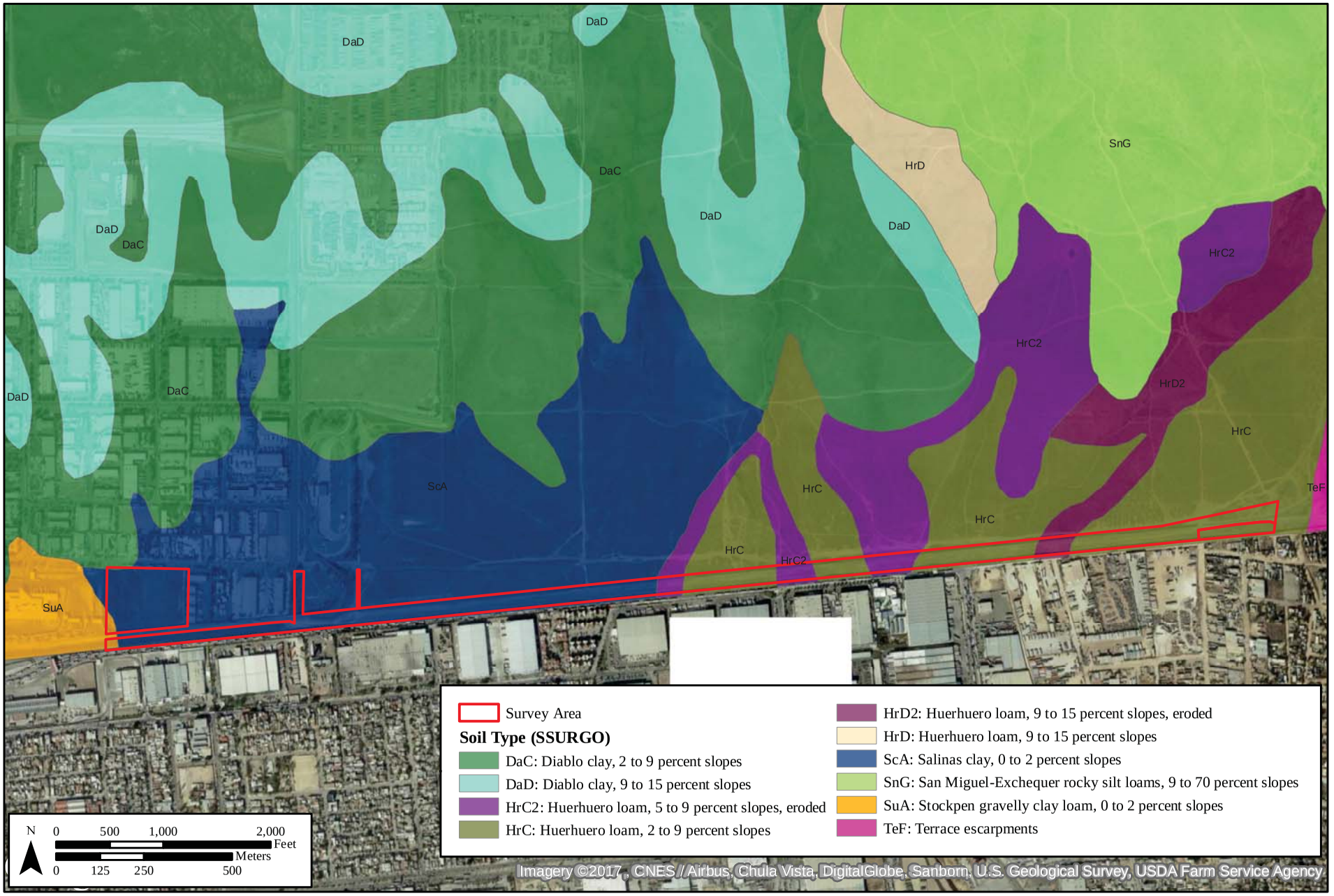

Figure 4. Soil types of project area.

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CULTURAL CONTEXT

Cultural Setting

Detailed discussions of the local cultural history of southern San Diego County can be found in Moratto (1984) and more recently in Neusius and Gross (2007). The major cultural trends in southern California are outlined briefly below.

Several researchers still assert the presence of "early man," or pre-Clovis, sites during the late Pleistocene, but the evidence for these sites is tenuous at best and most researchers disregard these claims. The earliest uncontested evidence of securely dated human occupation in southern California can be attributed to the San Dieguito complex, which dates from 10,000 to 11,000 years ago (Warren 1967). The material cultural traits of San Dieguito are distinguished by scrapers, leaf-shaped bifaces, crescents, gravers, choppers, and hammerstones (Rogers 1939). Features associated with San Dieguito complex sites include cleared circles (i.e., sleeping circles), trail shrines, and rock alignments. San Dieguito is generally contemporaneous with Paleoindian complexes identified elsewhere.

The La Jolla complex, or Milling Stone horizon, began approximately 9,000 to 7,000 years ago and is traditionally viewed as following the San Dieguito complex. The La Jolla complex is part of the Encinitas tradition, which is generally equivalent to the Early Archaic elsewhere. This period is distinguished primarily by the presence of milling tools such as manos and basin metates, often associated with shell middens (Moratto 1984). "Crude" choppers, scrapers, and projectile points (e.g., Pinto and Elko series) are the characteristic lithics of the La Jolla complex (Moriarty 1966). Some researchers contend that the La Jolla complex represents a migration of desert people from the east who adapted readily to their new environment, supplanting the earlier San Dieguito (Warren et al. 1961). Others argue that the La Jolla Complex simply developed out of the earlier San Dieguito groups (Kaldenberg 1976, Moriarty 1966). More recent research, however, argues that differences between the La Jolla and San Dieguito artifact assemblages represent functional differences, rather than temporal or cultural distinctions (Bull 1987, Gallegos 1987). In other words, artifact assemblages are more characteristic of location and resources exploited in those areas and therefore reflect coastal adaptations.

The Late Prehistoric period began approximately 1,200 to 600 years ago with the migration of the Shoshone and Yuman peoples into the area. The San Luis Rey complex is prevalent in northern San Diego County and is a Shoshonean predecessor of the Luiseño, while the Cuyamaca complex is found in what is now southern San Diego County. The Cuyamaca are Late Prehistoric ancestors of the Kumeyaay. The Late Prehistoric is characterized by small triangular projectile points, such as Cottonwood and Desert Side-notched varieties, imported lithic raw materials, milling implements with the addition of mortars and pestles, *Olivella* beads, and pottery. The Late Prehistoric Kumeyaay, or Cuyamaca, appear to have subsisted on a wider range of resources than earlier populations, possibly reflected in the greater variety of artifacts associated with these groups.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

GSRC conducted a records search of files from the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC), California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), GSRC's archives, the NRHP Database, and a literature review of previous investigations and previously recorded sites within a 0.5-mile buffer (excluding Mexico) surrounding the project area. The records search was limited to a 0.5-mile radius due to the large number of previous investigations that have been conducted in the immediate vicinity (Figures 5 and 6). The current investigation resulted in the identification of 61 previous projects/reports (Table 1). References from previous investigations are derived directly from CHRIS records, which may include very minor discrepancies, duplications, or omissions. The investigations have resulted in the identification of 44 archaeological sites (Table 2).

Table 1. Previous Investigations within a 0.5-mile Radius of the Project Area

Report Number	Report Title	Reference
SD-00150	Biological and Archaeological Survey, Tentative Parcel Map 12400, Otay Mesa	Berryman 1976
SD-00414	Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Otay Mesa International Border Crossing	Carrico 1974
SD-01111	Report on the Excavation of SDi-9098 and SDi-9099, Located on Otay Mesa near the International Border	Hector 1983
SD-01619	Proponents Environmental Assessment, Miguel to Tijuana Interconnection Project 230 KV Transmission Line	WESTEC 1979
SD-02142	Environmental Impact Report San Diego International Raceway Otay Mesa, San Diego County EAD LOG#84-19-13	Graves Engineering Inc. 1985
SD-02440	Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for American International Raceway	TMI Environmental Services 1990
SD-02802	Negative Archaeological Survey Report for Construction of Class A Truck Inspection Station at Otay Mesa International Border Crossing, San Diego County	Rosen and Krafts 1993
SD-03051	An Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Proposed San Diego Motor Racing Park, Otay Mesa, San Diego County	Smith and Moriarty 1985
SD-03259	Project Vecinos: Resources Report	Gross 1992
SD-03266	Archaeological Survey for the Joint Task Force-Six Border Road Repair Project, Otay Mountain, California	Gross et al. 1996
SD-0355	National Register Significance Evaluation of Six Sites for the Border Lights Project on Otay Mesa, San Diego County, California.	McDonald et al. 1998
SD-03695	Historic Properties Inventory for the Southeast Otay Mesa Sludge Processing Facilities and Pipeline (Southern Sludge Processing Facility to Southeast of Otay Mesa Sludge Processing Facility), San Diego, California	Robbins-Wade and Gross 1990
SD-03800	An Archaeological Evaluation of Cultural Resources for the Airway Truck Parking Project, County of San Diego	Buysse and Smith 2000a
SD-04075	Results of an Archaeological Survey and Evaluation of a Resource for the Tin Can Hill Segment of the Immigration and Naturalization Service Border Road, Fence, and Lighting Project	Buysse and Smith 2000b
SD-04260	Cultural Resource Survey for San Diego County Water Authority Pipeline 4EII	Brian F. Mooney Associates 1991

Table 1, continued

Report Number	Report Title	Reference
SD-04264	Archaeological Testing and NR Eligibility for JIF-G Border Lighting Project Otay Mesa	Brian F. Mooney Associates 1994
SD-04356	Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Otay Mesa International Border Crossing	Carrico 1974
SD-04620	Otay International Center Specific Plan	Rick Engineering Company 1983
SD-04649	Otay Mesa OHV Park Environmental Impact Report	WESTEC and EDAW, Inc. 1986
SD-04723	Cultural Resources Survey of the East Otay Mesa Sand and Gravel Stockpile and Conveyor Belt Project Area, San Diego County, California	Tetra Tech Inc. 2000
SD-04790	Archaeological Testing Program at CA-SDI-12256 for the San Diego Gas and Electric Otay Mesa Pipeline Extension, Otay Mesa, San Diego, California	Robbins-Wade 1999
SD-04840	Confidential Appendix to the Cultural Resources Survey for the SDG&E Project Vecinos Gas Pipeline, Otay Mesa, San Diego, CA.	Robbins-Wade 1992
SD-04853	Volume I Cultural Resource Data Recovery Program of the Proposed Miguel-Tijuana 230 KV International Interconnection Project San Diego, Co.	Cultural Systems Research, Inc. 1983
SD-04959	Draft EIR for Otay International Center Specific Plan & Tentative Subdivision Map	RECON 1983
SD-05063	Cultural Resource Survey and Extended Phase I Testing Program for the Future State Route 11 and East Otay Mesa Port of Entry Project, San Diego, California	Kyle 2001
SD-05199	Archaeological and Historical Resources Survey Vehicle Barrier & Drainage Works United States – Mexico International Boundary, Otay Mesa, San Diego, California	Schiltz 1989
SD-05379	Cultural Resource Inventory Number 2 for Twenty-Seven Drill Sites within the AMIR Indian Rose Area Lease	Gallegos and Pigniolo 1988
SD-05800	Otay Mesa Pipeline Extension Project	Gross and Robbins-Wade 1998
SD-06369	Historic Property Survey Report for the State Route 905	Gallegos 1999
SD-06434	Negative Archaeological Survey Report	City of San Diego 1995
SD-06437	Negative Archaeological Survey Report	City of San Diego 1994
SD-06530	Archaeological Field Survey of JTF-6 Light Pole Project	Dibble 1991
SD-07172	Otay Mesa Truck Route Archaeological Monitoring Report of Findings	Wade 1994
SD-07313	Cultural Resources Survey of the East Otay Mesa Sand and Gravel Stockpile and Conveyor Belt Project Area, San Diego County, California	Ejelyn 2000
SD-07547	Phase I Archaeological Report for Proposed Light Installation along the U.S./Mexico Border	SAIC 1996
SD-07623	Negative Historic Property Survey Report for the Interchange of State Route 905 with Siempre Viva Road on Otay Mesa, San Diego County, California	Rosen 2002
SD-08068	Cultural Resource Test Results for the Otay Mesa Generating Project	Gallegos and Flenniken 2000
SD-08669	East Otay Mesa Specific Plan Cultural Resources Technical Report (GPA 94-02; Log o. 93-19-6)	Ogden and Gallegos 1993

Table 1, continued

Report Number	Report Title	Reference
SD-09303	Archaeological Testing and NR Eligibility for JTF-6 Border Lighting Project, Otay Mesa Border Lighting Project	Cook and Pallette 1994
SD-09304	Draft Environmental Assessment Area Lighting, Fencing, and Roadways at International Border San Diego, CA	USACE 1997
SD-0936	Research Design for Significance Evaluation of Six Sites on Otay Mesa, San Diego County, CA	McDonald and Eighmey 1997
SD-10470	Site Significance Evaluation of Two Prehistoric Archaeological Sites Located on Otay Mesa, San Diego County, California.	Cooley 1999
SD-10487	TPM 18724	Berryman 1986
SD-11632	Historic Property Survey Report for State Route 11 and the East Otay Mesa Port of Entry	Rosen 2008
SD-11779	Archaeological Resources Inventory, RTX Project, Otay Mesa, San Diego, California	Robbins-Wade and Giletti 2007
SD-11781	Archaeological Resources Evaluation, Otay Crossings Commerce Park, Otay Mesa, San Diego County, California	Robbins-Wade 2009
SD-11941	Fielding and Operation of Gamma Imaging Inspection Systems at Three Ports of Entry in San Diego County, California	DHS 20008a
SD-11942	Fielding and Operation of a High Energy Mobile X-Ray Inspection System at the Otay Mesa Port of Entry,San Diego County, California	DHS 20008b
SD-12276	Cultural Resources Survey for the San Diego Gas & Electric Otay Mesa Pipeline Extension, Otay Mesa, San Diego, California	Robins-Wade et al. 1998
SD-12369	A Phase I Archaeological Survey and Phase II Cultural Resources Evaluation for the Otay Business Park Project	Rosenberg and Smith 2009
SD-12567	Historic Property Survey Report for the Proposed Construction of SR-11 and Otay Mesa Port of Entry Project	Rosen 2010
SD-13802	Section 106 Consultation for Installation of New Technology and Security Elements at Calexico East, Andrade, and Otay Mesa Land Ports of Entry, Imperial and San Diego Counties	Haas 2012
SD-13838	Section 106 Consultation for Pedestrian Engineering Elements, Otay Mesa Land Port of Entry, San Diego County	DHS 2012a
SD-13912	Evaluation of Buildings and Structures at the Land Ports of Entry in California	Belfast and Newlan 2009
SD-14368	Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the Otay Mesa Community Plan Update, City of Sand Diego Project Number 30330/304032	City of San Diego 2013a
SD-14579	Section 106 Consultation for Remediation of MG Lot II Tunnel, U.S. and Mexico Border	DHS 2012b
SD-14714	Final Program Environmental Impact Report for the Otay Mesa Community Plan Update, City of San Diego	City of San Diego 2013b
SD-15655	Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Survey, AT&T Site SS0002 LTE 2C/WCS Romero & McNally, 9475 Nicola Tesla Court, San Diego, San Diego County, California 93154, CASPR# 3601581712	Loftus 2014
SD-16072	U.S. Customs and Border Protection Remediation of the April Fools Tunnel at the U.S. Mexico International Border in California	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) 014a
SD-16073	U.S. Customs and Border Protection Remediation of the Tauro Tunnel at the U.S. Mexico International Border in California	(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) 2014b
SD-16637	Otay Crossings Commerce Park Project – Cultural Resources Study	Robbins-Wade 2016

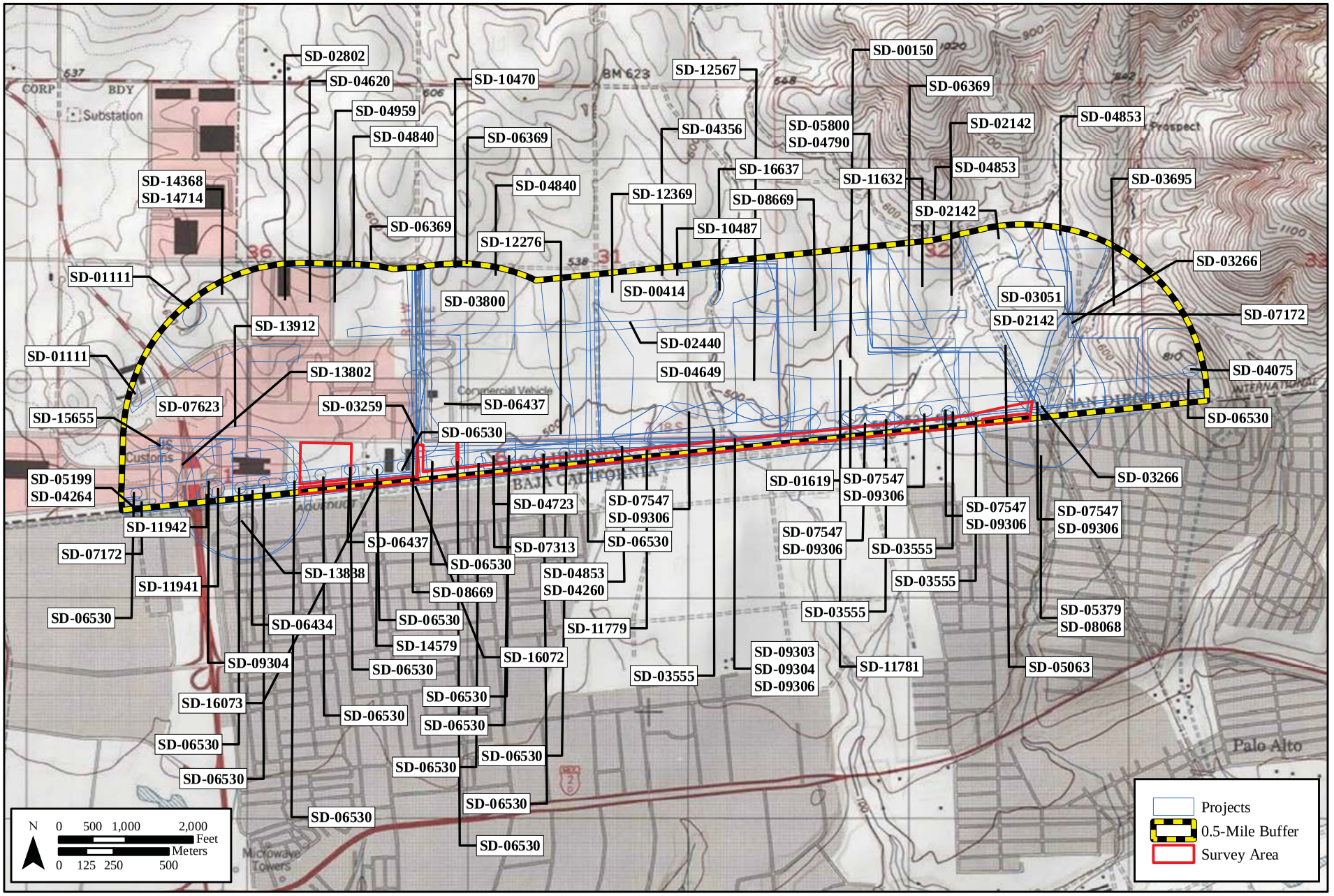

Figure 5. Prior investigations within a 0.5-mile radius of the project area.

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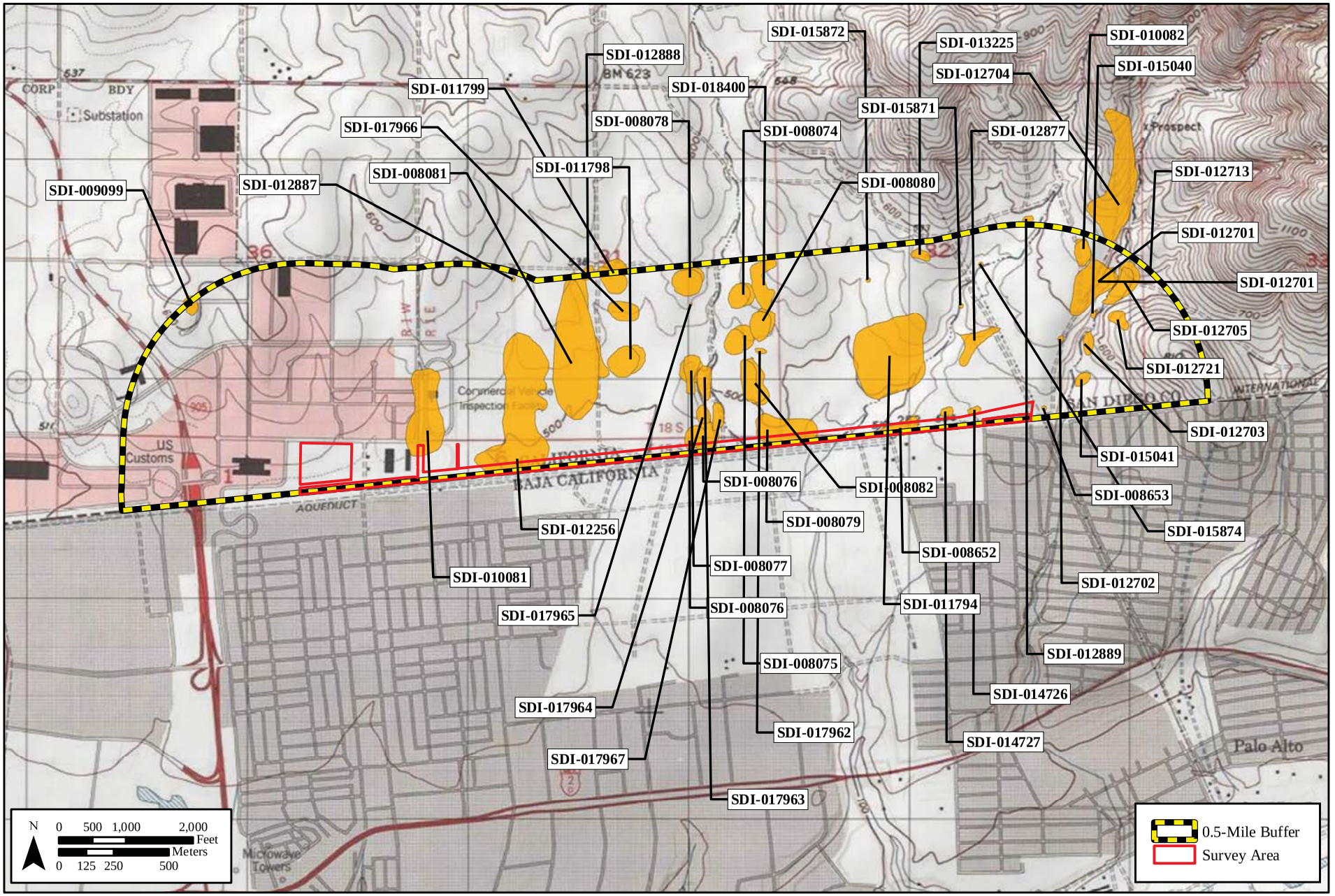

Figure 6. Previously recorded cultural resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the project area.

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Table 2. Archaeological Sites within a 0.5-mile Radius of the Project Area

Trinomial	Resource Description	Temporal Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation/ Status
CA-SDI-008074	Lithic scatter with possible hearths	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-008075	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-008076	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-008077	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-008078	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-008079	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric San Dieguito	Recommended eligible
CA-SDI-008080	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-008081	Resource extraction and processing/temporary habitation site	Prehistoric	Recommended eligible
CA-SDI-008082	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-008652	International Boundary Monument No. 252 and lithic scatter	Multicomponent	Unknown
CA-SDI-008653	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-009099	Lithic scatter with habitation debris and milling surfaces	Prehistoric	Not determined
CA-SDI-010081	Unknown – destroyed	Unknown	Unknown
CA-SDI-010082	Lithic (flakes and ground stone) scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-011794	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-011798	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-011799	Cistern and historic debris from possible demolished structure; lithic scatter	Multicomponent	Recommended eligible
CA-SDI-012256	Resource extraction and processing/temporary habitation site	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-012701	Flaked stone concentrations, artifact scatter of flakes, ground stone, and marine shell; concrete pad, and non-native ornamental trees	Multicomponent	Unknown
CA-SDI-012702	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-012703	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-012704	Habitation site with features and artifacts	Prehistoric	Recommended eligible
CA-SDI-012705	Lithic concentration and scatter with flakes and ground stone	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-012713	Historic farmstead with remnants of 3 structures, 1 cistern, and a water storage tank	Historic	Unknown
CA-SDI-012721	Lithic scatter and bedrock milling feature	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-012877	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-012887	Sparse lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown

Table 2, continued

Trinomial	Resource Description	Temporal Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation/ Status
CA-SDI-012888	Trash scatter	Historic	Unknown
CA-SDI-012889	Sparse lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-013225	Bedrock milling features	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-014726	Sparse lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Determined not eligible
CA-SDI-014727	Sparse lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Determined not eligible
CA-SDI-015040	Trash scatter	Historic	Unknown
CA-SDI-015041	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-015871	Two bedrock milling features	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-015872	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-015874	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown
CA-SDI-017962	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-017963	Lithic scatter with flakes and ground stone (surface and subsurface)	Prehistoric	Recommended eligible
CA-SDI-017964	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-017965	Temporary camp with marine shell and flaked stone	Prehistoric	Not eligible
CA-SDI-017966	Artifact scatter (marine shell and flaked stone) and trash scatter (construction debris and historic refuse)	Multicomponent	Not eligible
CA-SDI-017967	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
CA-SDI-018400	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Unknown

The previously recorded sites consist primarily of prehistoric lithic scatters. Prehistoric site types range from small isolated artifact scatters to temporary campsites or prehistoric habitations. Historic sites consist of the trash scatters or the remains of historic homesteads or farmsteads. Only six of the 44 previously recorded sites intersect the current project area; these are described briefly below.

CA-SDI-008076 was recorded, updated, and expanded several times during the last 40 years. It was originally recorded as a lithic scatter with a surface and subsurface component. The site was subject to testing and evaluation, though the current NRHP eligibility of the site is unknown.

CA-SDI-008079 was recorded as a highly significant San Dieguito site with subsurface depth. The site card noted that site destruction was imminent, and is presumed to have been subject to data recovery, though current site records are unclear on additional efforts.

CA-SDI-008652 consists of U.S. International Border Monument Number 252, which is surrounded by a prehistoric lithic scatter. NRHP eligibility of the site and monument are not listed.

CA-SDI-010081 was surveyed by Affinis in 1992. The previous investigation noted there was no existing record for the plotted site location and further noted that no evidence of cultural resources presently exists in the recorded site location. Most of the site area consists of Enrico Fermi Drive and industrial facilities to the west of the road. The site is presumably destroyed and no longer exists.

CA-SDI-012256 has been recorded, updated, and tested on numerous occasions. The updates and testing projects have recommended the site as not NRHP-eligible.

CA-SDI-014726 was originally recorded as a sparse lithic scatter that was subsequently recorded and partially collected. Geo-Marine, Inc. attempted to relocate the site in 1998 but found no cultural resources present.

Each of the sites that intersect the project area have been recommended not eligible, have their research potential exhausted through collection or testing, or were otherwise previously destroyed.

The review of historical records and maps revealed no notable historic properties, features, or roads between 1769 and 1885. The only notable landmark is the United States Border with Mexico. The corresponding 7.5 minute USGS topographical quadrangle for Otay Mesa in 1955 depicts a two-track road along the border and several perpendicular alignments of two-track roads or jeep trails, but no other historic properties within or adjacent to the project area.

FIELD METHODS

The pedestrian survey consisted of an archaeologist walking parallel transects spaced no more than 20 meters apart. When cultural material or an artifact was identified, its location was marked with a pin flag. The surrounding area was immediately checked for additional artifacts, which were also flagged. If no other cultural materials were observed, the location of the isolated find (IF) was recorded using a handheld Trimble™ global positioning system (GPS) unit. The IF was photographed if diagnostic or otherwise unusual. The type and location of each IF, along with any additional descriptive information, was recorded on standardized forms. If additional artifacts or features were identified and the cultural materials meet the minimum definition of an archaeological site as defined by the Scope of Work and the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the cultural materials were assigned a temporary field site number. The site was recorded on standardized forms, mapped, and photographed. Tabulations of artifacts were achieved by placing pin flags on artifacts and artifact concentrations and manually counting individual artifacts and estimating totals within concentrations. Artifacts were further tabulated by type, sub-type, and morphology. Tabulations of artifacts were also cross-referenced with estimated densities across various portions of the site to ensure that the data were cohesive. Final tabulations for large numbers of specific types of artifacts were presented as a range to accommodate any miscalculations and estimates. The 1983 North American Datum was used for all Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates. Any site and IF location data were downloaded, differentially corrected, and brought into a Geographic Information System (GIS) file via ArcMap™ to produce property and resource location maps.

SURVEY RESULTS

GSRC Archaeologist (b) (6) inventoried the project area on August 23, 2017, by inspecting the ground surface of the proposed 54-acre project area and immediate surroundings using parallel transects spaced no more than 20 meters apart. No archaeological sites or historic properties were identified during the pedestrian archaeological survey. Furthermore, there was no evidence at all of the previously recorded sites, confirming that the previous sites were collected or tested out of existence (Figure 7). The project area itself has been heavily modified through earth-moving activities and development of the surrounding area. Several features were observed, such as a drainage channel and storm drain, but have been determined to be modern in origin (i.e., within the last 10 to 20 years). A fragment of a ceramic roof tile was also noted within the 10-acre potential staging area (GSA lot) (Photograph 1), but appears to be displaced, along with other modern refuse, and is likely modern itself.

Photograph 1. Ceramic roof tile fragment in GSA lot

In addition, two possible pieces of lithic debitage were also noted (Photographs 2 and 3). Both items are located between the primary fence and the all-weather road to the north, and within an area that has been subject to significant earth-moving activities (e.g., blading, grading, leveling). It is common for heavy equipment passing over rocks to create "pressure or percussion" flakes analogous to prehistoric flint knapping techniques, when the raw material has the property of conchoidal fracture. Furthermore, the parent material of the "possible flakes" was similar to rip-rap and other local material imported for border-related infrastructure projects. Machine-made/caused fracturing of natural rocks also tends to lack certain well-defined morphological characteristics, such as a grinding platform and bulb of percussion. Both "artifacts" were therefore determined to be modern in origin.

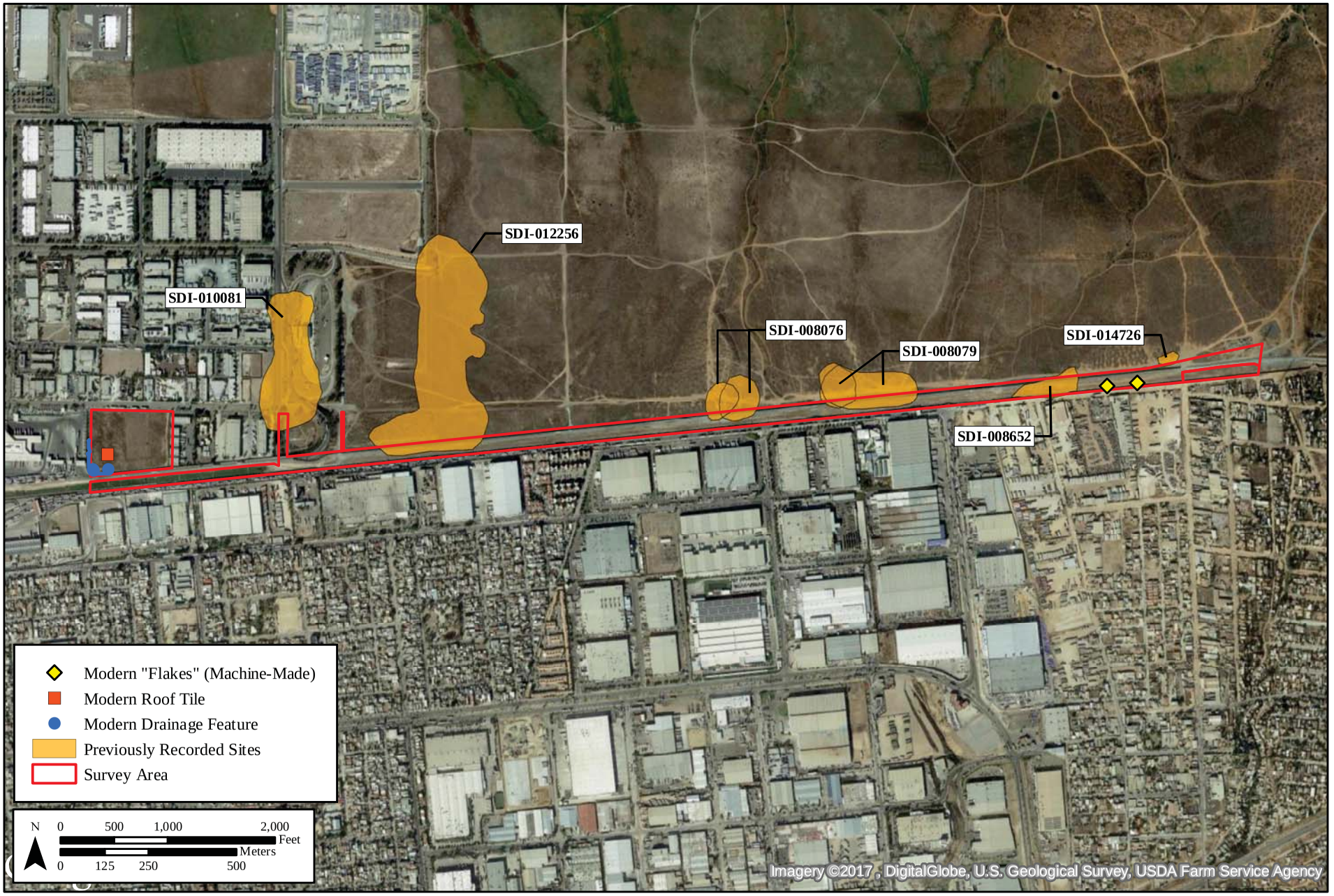

Figure 7. Project area and results of cultural resources survey.

GSRC

October 2017

BW5 FOIA CBP 000214

Photograph 2. Example of modern "flake".

Photograph 3. Example of modern "flake".

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

GSRC archaeologists completed a records search and pedestrian cultural resources survey in support of the proposed SDC Border Wall Prototype construction project. The records search identified 61 previous cultural resources investigations, which resulted in the identification of 44 archaeological sites. Six of the previously recorded sites intersect the current project area, but all of the sites were completely collected, tested, or destroyed. The pedestrian archaeological survey identified several features and artifacts of suspect nature, but further research determined the features and artifacts to be modern in origin. In the absence of cultural resources within the 54-acre project area, no additional archaeological investigation is recommended and there will be no adverse effects on any cultural resources within the project area.

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